

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A strand-guiding roll for supporting and guiding cast metal strands in a continuous casting installation, the roll comprising:

~~having a central rotatable shaft; (1) and having at least one roll shell (3) supported on and fixed against rotation on this the shaft;[[,]] characterized in that the roll shell (3) is supported via support rings (4) on the shaft supporting the roll shell;~~

~~the shaft, the roll shell and the support rings being shaped to define (1), in that an annular space (6) which is axially delimited by the support rings (4) and is formed between the shaft (1) and the roll shell; (3); and~~

~~connections to the annular space for the space to be (6) is designed as a coolant conduit via the connections.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that further comprising sealing elements (20, 21), preferably sealing rings inserted in annular grooves, are arranged between the support rings (4) and the roll shell (3) and between the support rings (4) and the central shaft (1).~~

3. (Currently Amended) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that further comprising the connections to the annular space (6), which is designed as a coolant conduit, is connected to comprising a coolant line (12, 18) arranged in and extending along a direction of an axis of the central shaft (1) via and radial branch lines from the coolant line, the coolant and branch lines being operable (13, 17) for supplying a coolant to and discharging [[a]] the coolant from the annular space.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in claim 3, wherein one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the support rings have respective annular grooves, the radial branch lines (13, 17) open out within ~~the~~ a longitudinal extent of the support rings (4) and into ~~an~~ the annular groove (14, 16) grooves in the support ring (4) which is rings, and the annular grooves in the support rings open toward the annular space, (6) via a multiplicity of outlet openings (19) opening the annular grooves toward the space.

5. (Currently Amended) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that ~~the roll shell (3) is secured~~ claim 1, further comprising a rotation-preventing device passing through the annular space and shaped to secure the roll shell against rotation with respect to the shaft (1) by a rotation-preventing means (5), preferably a feather key, and the rotation-preventing means (5) passes through the annular space (6).

6. (Currently Amended) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that ~~two wherein two of the support rings (4), which support a~~ at least one roll shell (3) on the shaft (1), the two support rings are connected to form a support-ring sleeve (26), and an the annular space (6), the has an axial extent of which is delimited by the support rings (4), the annular space being is formed between the roll shell (3) and the support-ring sleeve.

7. (Currently Amended) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that further comprising sealing elements (20, 21), preferably sealing rings inserted in annular grooves, are arranged between the support rings (4) of connected by the support-ring sleeve (26) and the roll shell (3) and between the support rings (4) and the central shaft (1).

8. (Currently Amended) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in claim 6, further comprising the connections to or 7, characterized in that the annular space (6) is designed as a coolant conduit, which is connected to comprising a coolant line (12, 18) arranged in and extending along a direction

of an axis of the central shaft (1) via and radial branch lines from the coolant line, the coolant and branch lines being operable (13, 17, 29, 30) for supplying a coolant to and discharging [[a]] the coolant from the annular space.

9. (Currently Amended) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in ~~one of claims 6 to 8, characterized in that the roll shell (3) is secured~~ claim 6, further comprising a rotation-preventing device passing through the annular space and shaped to secure the roll shell against rotation with respect to the shaft (1) by a rotation-preventing means (5), preferably a feather key, and the rotation-preventing means (5) passes through the annular space (6) and the support-ring sleeve (26).

10. (Currently Amended) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the~~ claim 3, further comprising the central shaft has opposite end regions; the coolant line (12) for supplying coolant which runs within the central shaft (1) starts from one end side region of the central shaft, and the a coolant line (18) for discharging coolant arranged in the central shaft opens out at the opposite end side region of the central shaft, and each coolant line (12, 18) is assigned a rotary connection piece (10, 11).

11. (Currently Amended) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 3, further comprising the central shaft has opposite end regions; respective ones of the coolant lines for supply and for discharge of coolant, the coolant lines (12, 18) which run within the central shaft (1) and both coolant lines open out in one of the end side regions of the central shaft, and these coolant lines are assigned a multiple rotary connection piece.

12. (New) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in claim 7, wherein the support rings have respective annular grooves, and the sealing elements comprise sealing rings inserted in the annular grooves in the roll shell.

13. (New) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in claim 5, wherein the rotation prevention device comprises a feather key.

14. (New) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in claim 2, wherein the support rings have respective annular grooves, and the sealing elements comprise sealing rings inserted in the annular grooves in the roll shell.

15. (New) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in claim 10, further comprising each of the coolant lines has a respective a rotary connection piece as a connection thereof.

16. (New) The strand-guiding roll as claimed in claim 11, further comprising the coolant lines have a respective a rotary connection piece as a connection thereof.